

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 /078 W

----- 045863 /61

R 171532Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5060
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 4012

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, CY
SUBJECT: LEAKED UN DOCUMENTS

REF: LONDON 20243

1. DEC 13 TIMES REPORT ON UN DOCUMENTS CONCERNING SYSTEMATIC LOOTING OF FAMAGUSTA BY TURKS HAS INDEED HIT PRESS HERE, CAUSING EMBARRASSMENT TO UN, DEFENSIVE REACTION FROM TURKS, AND GREEK CYPRIOT CRITICISM OF UN AND UNSYG'S REPORT FOR GLOSSING OVER TURKISH REACTIONS. TIMES' ALLEGATION THT UN HAD "AUTHENTICATED" DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION HAS ALSO IRKED UN OFFICIALS HERE, WHO BELIEVE THT UNFICYP'S ESSENTIALLY "NO COMMENT" RESPONSE WAS UNETHICALLY MISREPORTED.

2. UN SENIOR POLAD GORGE MET WITH DENKTASH 16 DEC TO DISCUSS SITUATION, AND "TFSC" SPOKESMAN SUBSEQUENTLY WAS QUOTED IN PRESS AS SAYING THAT TIMES REPORT WAS A ONE-SIDED ALLEGATION MADE FOR PROPAGANDA PRUPOSES AND THAT IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT NO UNFICYP SOLDIER HAS LEAKED DOCUMENTS CONCERNING LOOTING OF GREEK GOODS IN TURKISH AREA BY THE TURKS.
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SPOKESMAN WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE UNSYG REPORT HAS DEALT WITH THE MATTER IN A "RATHER OBJECTIVE MANNER" AND THAT GREEK PROPERTY IN THE NORTH IS BEING HANDLED JUST AS TURKISH PROPERTIES LEFT IN THE SOUTH. PROPERTY COMPENSATION AND EXCHANGE QUESTION, HE CONTINUED, WOULD BE DEALT WITH AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE.
"TO TERM TAKING CONTROL OVER PROPERTY AND GOODS ON THE BASIS

OF OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES LOOTING IS NOT TO UNDER-
STAND REALITIES ON CYPRUS." (EMBASSY TRANSLATION).

3. COMMENT: ONE MAN'S OFFICIAL REQUISITIONING IS ANOTHER MAN'S
SYSTEMATIC LOOTING. WHATEVER THE NAME, GREEK GOODS HAVE IN FACT
BEEN REMOVED ON A CONTINUING BASIS FROM FAMAGUSTA FOR SEVERAL
MONTHS; THE TURKS HAVE BEEN DRAWING ON INVENTORIED GREEK
FURNITURE AND GOODS TO COMPENSATE TURK CYPRIOTS WHO ABANDONED
EVERYTHING IN THE SOUTH; AND THE GREEKS ARE UNLIKELY TO GAIN
MUCH SATISFACTION ON THE ISSUE - APART FROM ITS PROPAGANDA
VALUE - UNTIL SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON POLITICAL AND
COMPENSATION ISSUES GET UNDERWAY, IF THEN.
PARROTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, DOCUMENTS, REFUGEES, LOOTING, POPULATION MOVEMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, NEWS LEAKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NICOSI04012
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760465-0326
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761233/aaaabcfj.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LONDON 20243
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEAKED UN DOCUMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, CY
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006